

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2019

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

C O N F I D E N T I A L FRANKFURT 7552

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: THE SAARLAND "PATT" AND THE POLISH AGREEMENTS

REF: BONN 18254

SUMMARY: IT REMAINS AN OPEN QUESTION WHICH WAY THE  
SAARLAND WILL GO ON THE POLISH AGREEMENTS AT THE  
CRUCIAL SECOND READING IN THE BUNDESRAT EARLY NEXT YEAR. ALL  
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EVIDENCE WE HAVE SUGGESTS THERE IS NO "JUNKTIM" BETWEEN THE  
SAARLAND FDP'S ATTITUDE ON THE LAND BUDGET AND THE

CDU GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE POLISH AGREEMENTS.  
CONTRARY TO CSU CHAIRMAN STRAUSS' VIEWS (REFTEL) EARLY  
LANDTAG ELECTIONS IN THE SAARLAND ARE UNLIKELY.  
END SUMMARY.

1. FROM ALL WE LEAN IT REMAINS AN OPEN QUESTION  
WHETHER THE SAARLAND'S GOVERNMENT WILL HEED THE  
NATIONAL CDU/CSU LEADERSHIP CALL TO OPPOSE THE POLISH  
AGREEMENTS IN THE BUNDESRAT OR WILL BREAK RANKS WITH  
THE OTHER CDU/CSU LAENDER AND SUPPORT THE TREATIES AT THE  
SECOND READING IN FEBRUARY 1976.

2. IN THE INTERNAL DISCUSSION PRECEEDING THE EARLY  
NOVEMBER BUNDESRAT DEBATE AS WELL AS SUBSEQUENTLY MINISTER-  
PRESIDENT FRANZ JOSEF JOSEF ROEDER (CDU) VOICED SERIOUS  
MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE TREATIES BUT HAS INSISTED THAT THE  
QUESTION BE KEPT OPEN AND REFERRED TO THE OPPOSITION'S  
DUTY TO STRENGTHEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN THE PURSUIT  
OF GERMAN NATIONAL INTERESTS. ROEDER ALSO ASSERTED  
THE RIGHT OF EVERY LAND GOVERNMENT TO DEVIATE FROM  
THE POLITICAL LINE LAID DOWN BY ITS NATIONAL PARTY  
AND THUS CLEARLY KEPT THE WAY OPEN FOR THE SAARLAND  
GOVERNMENT TO GO ITS OWN WAY IN THE BUNDESRAT ON THE  
PLISH AGREEMENTS.

3. WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT THE SO-CALLED "JUNKTIM"  
BETWEEN THE SAARLAND GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE ON THE  
POLISH AGREEMENTS AND THE SAARLAND FDP'S NECESSARY  
SUPPORT FOR ROEDER'S BUDGET IS ANYTHING BUT  
JOURNALISTIC IMAGINATION. THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A  
"JUNKTIM" HAS BEEN FLATELY DENIED BY ROEDER, FDP  
CHAIRMAN KLUMPP AS WELL AS LESSER OFFICIALS OF BOTH  
PARTIES IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH CONGEN STAFF  
MEMBERS. THE FDP APPROVAL OF ROEDER'S BUDGET FOR  
THE SAARLAND WAS IN FACT FORESHADOWED BY KLUMPP IN  
A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH THE CONSUL GENERAL IN MID  
SEPTEMBER (LONG BEFORE THE POLISH AGREEMENTS BECAME  
AN ISSUE) IN WHICH THE SAARLAND FDP CHAIRMAN MADE IT  
CLEAR THAT IT WAS SIMPLY A MATTER OF GOOD  
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POLITICS FOR THE FDP TO MAKE SURE THAT THE SAARLAND ADMINISTRATION  
WOULD CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AND THAT NO BLAME FOR  
FAILURE TO DO SO COULD BE LAID AT THE DOOR OF THE FDP.  
KLUMPP ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WAS NOT ONLY COMFORT-  
ABLE WITH "PATT" BUT IN FACT ENJOYED IT AND HAD NO  
INTENTION TO ENTER INTO A COALITION WITH THE CDU TO  
GOVERN THE SAAR.

4. CONTRARY TO CSU CHAIRMAN STRAUSS' VIEWS ( PARA 6  
REFTEL) WE HAVE FOUND NOBODY WHO BELIEVES IN NEW

SAARLAND LANDTAG ELECTIONS BEFORE THE BUNDESTAG  
ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER 1976. IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THAT  
SUCH EARLY ELECTIONS WOULD COME OFF. THE LANDTAG CAN  
BE DISSOLVED IN ADVANCE OF ITS NORMAL TERM ONLY BY  
A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY WHICH WOULD MEAN THAT THE CDU

AND SPD WOULD HAVE TO AGREE ON DISSOLUTION. (THE  
FDP'S THREE VOTES ARE QUITE INSUFFICIENT TO HELP  
THE CDU BRING ABOUT DISSOLUTION EVEN IF THE LATTER  
SHOULD DEFINITELY DECIDE THAT EARLY DISSOLUTION AND  
ELECTIONS ARE DESIRABLE.) SINCE THE SPD SEES  
ITS ADVANTAGE IN ELECTIONS NEXT FALL RATHER THAN  
EARLIER IT HAS NO REASON TO COOPERATE WITH THE  
CDU ON THIS SCORE. AN ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE A NO  
CONFIDENCE VOTE BY THE CDU FACTION IN ITS OWN  
GOVERNMENT (PLUS ONE VOTE FROM THE SPD OR FDP), A  
COURSE OF ACTION WHICH HAS LITTLE IF ANY ATTRACTION  
FOR THE CDU.

5. IN SUMMARY, THE CURRENT SAAR GOVERNMENT IS FAR  
MORE LIKELY THAN NOT TO RIDE OUT THE PRESENT SITUATION  
UNTIL THE OCTOBER 1976 ELECTIONS AND THE QUESTION OF  
THE SAARLAND'S BUNDESRAT VOTE ON THE POLISH AGREEMENTS  
REMAINS WIDE OPEN. LEHMANN

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